Technical Bulletin

May 12, 2009

AN1 and AN2 Angular Position Sensors

All of our Cherry AN1 and AN2 angular position sensors include an unpublished specification for “smoothness”. This refers to the deviation from a straight line at any particular point along the output. The standard smoothness spec derives from an SAE standard published decades ago to address the possibility that a contacting potentiometer could exhibit an unsmooth output at a transition point between contacts. Smoothness is not applicable in the same way to non-contacting angular position sensors like ours, but is more often an indication of the cumulative noise measured from the power supply and the test equipment, plus the sensor output digitization.

Recently, because of upgrades in our angular sensor test equipment, we have noted that the actual smoothness of our AN1 and AN2 outputs is +/- 1% of full scale output, whereas our unpublished specification has been +/- 0.5%.

Effective May 19, we will change the smoothness specification to +/- 1%, to reflect the actual performance of the sensor. Although the specification is not included in our datasheets, catalogs or web pages, it is included in our internal product specification document which may have been shared with certain customers, so we will notify all distributors and customers who have purchased these products in the past 2 years, by providing them with a copy of this technical bulletin.

Kind regards,

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